

## Corps officially begins 2008 refill of Libby Dam's Koocanusa Reservoir today

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Portland, OR. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin refill operations of Koocanusa Reservoir, impounded by Libby Dam, today. The project will pass the VARQ Flood Control Flow, currently 13,800 cfs. The project will hold this outflow until the sturgeon flows commence sometime in late May or early June.

This operation is consistent with the Corps' December 2007 decision to operate Libby Dam strictly in accordance with VARQ operating procedures as described and evaluated in the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Decision document signed Dec. 31, 2002 for interim implementation of VARQ flood control with fish flows ([http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/ers/reposit/Interim VARQ Final EA.pdf](http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/ers/reposit/Interim_VARQ_Final_EA.pdf) ).

The Corps operates and maintains Libby Dam for multiple uses that are consistent with project authorizations and applicable laws and regulations. The Corps' primary consideration is minimizing risk to human life, health and safety while meeting Libby Dam's multiple purposes and responsibilities.

More information about Libby Dam operations will be presented at the upcoming Libby Public Meeting, May 15 in the Ponderosa Room at the Libby City Hall, 7 to 9:30 p.m. MDT. Additional information about Libby Dam operations can also be found on the following website links.

For real-time river basin information from the Reservoir Control Center:

[http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/ftppub/project\\_data/daily/lib.txt](http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/ftppub/project_data/daily/lib.txt)

<http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/nws/hh/basins/koot.html>

For more information on the Columbia Basin Water Management Division:

<http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/>

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